

BRUFFEY MANOR

STORY

The old Bruffey Manor sits on a hill outside of town. For years, the local people have been divided in their opinion as to whether or not it is haunted. On windy, stormy nights, lights are sometimes seen flashing in the windows and strange sounds come from the building.

The Manor is not really abandoned, just deserted, so the police have hesitated to enter and to try and prove anything. Besides, it's technically out of the city limits.

There is a large iron gate and fence that surrounds the property. The gate is locked, so visitors must park their car and walk up the hill about 200 yards to the manor.

The Bruffeys were a well-to-do manufacturing family in the late 1890's and were said to have made several million dollars selling canned stew to the Army during the 1898 Spanish - American War. Local jokers claim that since Luke Bruffey was the town dog catcher, much of the meat in the stew was dog meat (with a little cat meat thrown in occasionally).

People claim that the spirits of the troops which died after eating the stew, came back and drove the Bruffeys insane. It is said dogs bark when strangers are in the house. Are there such things as ghost dogs? No one has ever even seen a dog anywhere near the Manor.

The local Rotary club has offered a ski trip to North Dakota to anyone who can prove that the house either is or is not haunted. Edie Parker has volunteered to do this for them, taking her sister, Connie, along.

County Sheriff deputies have received several reports of strange cars and flashing lights at the Manor. "Irish" Swenson is convinced that something is going on at the Manor and next week will get a warrant to investigate, so time is short for amateur investigators.

Not everyone here is what they claim to be! One of the challenges is to discover who has a sinister reason for being here. For an abandoned house, there certainly seems to be a bunch of people here!